



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/805,112

03/14/2001

Nadeem Ahmed

P 61702 US 0

1490

23380

7590

09/24/2004

TUCKER, ELLIS & WEST LLP
1150 HUNTINGTON BUILDING
925 EUCLID AVENUE
CLEVELAND, OH 44115-1475

EXAMINER

COLLINS, SCOTT M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2145

DATE MAILED: 09/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/805,112

Applicant(s)

AHMED, NADEEM

Examiner

Scott M. Collins

Art Unit

2145

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-19 examined.
2. It is hereby acknowledged that the following papers have been received and placed of record in the file: Foreign Priority Papers received on 02/12/2002.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Risch, U.S. Patent Number 5,471,629 (herein referred to as Risch).
5. Referring to claim 1, Risch has taught a computer network for facilitating the storage and amendment of accountancy records indicative of reciprocal obligations comprising:
 - a. a plurality of computers (Risch figure 9); and
 - b. a communication network operable to transmit data between said plurality of computers (Risch figure 9),
 - c. wherein each of the plurality of computers comprises:
 1. means for storing and amending accountancy records each indicative of one side of a reciprocal obligation (Risch column 1, lines 13-17, 26-27; column 2, lines 28-32; and column 4, lines 5-12 where Risch's invention includes a standard database system that allows for storing and amending and the records can contain any type of data

and/or obligations. Specifically, the example embodiments denoted describe financial obligations.);

2. monitoring means for monitoring the amendment of said accounting records within said computer, said monitoring means being arranged to output data indicative of the content of amended accountancy records to said communications network (Risch column 2, lines 28-32, 41-55 where the example embodiments denoted describe financial data.);

3. receiving means for receiving data indicative of the content of amended accountancy records stored within other computers of said plurality of computers (Risch figure 9; column 2, lines 37-50; column 4, lines 29-44); and

4. update means arranged to initiate the amendment of accountancy records within a computer utilizing data received by said receiving means wherein said update means is arranged to initiate amendments to accounting records indicative of the other side of the reciprocal obligation to that indicated by data received by said receiving means (Risch column 2, lines 28-40; column 4, lines 5-44; and column 5, lines 31-45).

6. Referring to claim 2, Risch has taught the computer network further comprising routing means for routing data indicative of the content of amended accountancy records via said communications network (Risch figure 2, block 209; figure 6, block 306; column 4, lines 29-44; column 5, lines 46-53; column 7, lines 53-60; and column 8, lines 30-40), wherein each of said monitoring means of said plurality of computers is arranged to output data indicative of the content of amended accountancy records to said routing means via said communications network (Risch figure 2, block 209; figure 6, block 306; column 4, lines 29-44; column 5, lines 46-53;

Art Unit: 2145

column 7, lines 53-60; and column 8, lines 30-40) and said routing means is arranged to cause said data to be passed to the receiving means of a selected computer of said plurality of computers (Risch figure 2, block 209; figure 6, block 306; column 4, lines 29-44; column 5, lines 46-53; column 7, lines 53-60; and column 8, lines 30-40), said routing means being arranged to select said computer utilizing the received data indicative of the content of amended accountancy records output by said monitoring means (Risch figure 2, block 209; figure 6, block 306; column 4, lines 29-44; column 5, lines 46-53; column 7, lines 53-60; and column 8, lines 30-40).

7. Referring to claim 3, Risch has taught the computer wherein said routing means further comprises storage means for storing data representative of data output to said routing means by said monitoring means of said plurality of computers (Risch figure 9, storage 704; column 4, lines 29-44; and column 15, lines 12-13, 24-34 where the server initiates the routing to the client.).

8. Referring to claim 4, Risch has taught the computer network further comprising storage means for storing data indicative of the content of amended accountancy records, said storage means being arranged to output data indicative of the content of amended accountancy records in response to a request received from any of said plurality of computers (Risch figure 9, storages 704, 710a, and 710b; column 4, lines 29-44; and column 15, lines 12-13, 16, and 24-34 where the server initiates the routing to the client.),

wherein said monitoring means of computers is arranged to output each of said plurality of data indicative of the content of amended accountancy records to said storage means via said communications networked wherein each of said plurality of computers further comprises means for outputting a request for the output of stored data stored within said storage means (Risch

figure 2, block 209; figure 6, block 306; column 4, lines 29-44; column 5, lines 46-53; column 7, lines 53-60; and column 8, lines 30-40).

9. Referring to claim 5, Risch has taught the computer network wherein each of said plurality of computers further comprises input means for inputting data indicative of authorization for the update of accountancy records within said computer wherein said update means is arranged only to initiate the amendment of accountancy record/ following the receipt of data indicative of authorization of an update input via said input means (Risch figure 2, block 209; figure 6, block 306; figure 9, workstations 707; column 4, lines 29-44; column 5, lines 46-53; column 7, lines 53-60; and column 8, lines 30-40 where the workstations have an input means from the network 713 whereby records are updated.).

10. Referring to claim 6, Risch has taught the computer network wherein said receiving means is arranged upon receipt of data indicative of the content of amended accountancy records to retrieve from said means for storing accountancy records within said computer records corresponding to said amended records, said plurality of computers each further comprising display means for displaying retrieved records and data indicative of said amended accountancy records prior to input of data indicative of authorization of an update of accountancy records (Risch figure 2, block 209; figure 6, block 306; figure 9, workstations 707; column 4, lines 29-44; column 5, lines 46-53; column 7, lines 53-60; and column 8, lines 30-40 where the workstations have an receiving means from the network 713 whereby records are updated.).

11. Referring to claim 7, Risch has taught the computer network wherein said input means is arranged to permit the input of additional data when data indicative of the authorization of an update of accountancy records is input, wherein said update means is arranged to initiate

Art Unit: 2145

amendments to said accounting records within said computer utilizing said data received by said receiving means, and said data input by said input means (Risch figure 2, block 209; figure 6, block 306; figure 9, workstations 707; column 4, lines 29-44; column 5, lines 46-53; column 7, lines 53-60; and column 8, lines 30-40 where the workstations have an input means from the network 713 whereby records are updated.).

12. Referring to claim 8, Risch has taught the computer network further comprising association means for associating data indicative of amended accountancy records with additional data wherein said update means is arranged to update said additional data records within a computer utilizing associated with data indicative of amended accountancy records via said association means (Risch figure 2, block 209; figure 6, block 306; column 2, lines 28-50; column 4, lines 29-44; column 5, lines 21-53; column 7, lines 53-60; and column 8, lines 30-40).

13. Claims 9-11 do not recite limitations above the claimed invention set forth in claim 1 and are therefore rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claim 1 above.

14. Claims 12-15 do not recite limitations above the claimed invention set forth in claims 5-8 and are therefore rejected for the same reasons set forth in the rejection of claims 5-8 above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

15. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Art Unit: 2145

16. Claims 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Risch in view of what would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention.

17. Referring to claims 16-19, Risch has not expressly disclosed the computer implementable instructions for implementing the invention that is stored on a storage medium comprising a magnetic or optical disc or an electrical signal. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to utilize any of these apparatuses to as a storage medium for the instructions that generate the invention. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this in order to use the most common and widely available apparatuses for storing the computer implementable instructions.

Conclusion

18. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- a. Risch U.S. Patent Number 5,133,075
- b. Sugita U.S. Patent Number 6,272,500
- c. Dietrich et al. U.S. Patent Number 6,032,121

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Scott M. Collins whose telephone number is 703.305.7865. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A Wiley can be reached on 703.308.5221. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

smc
September 15, 2004


DAVID WILEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100